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SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schrock, just one more exchange with you, and that's all I have to say about it, I think. But the 50-foot rule, the 50-foot rule that says you need a surface water permit in order to drill a ground water well in that area, is, as you and I both know, not a great example of applying scientific method, right? I mean there may be some places you could be within 50 foot of a river and not be taking river water. The logic of that rule is that in most places in the state, if you're that close to the river, you're taking river water.

SENATOR SCHROCK: I would agree, Senator Beutler. You and I are about 50 foot apart right now, and I would think there would be very few wells drilled within 50 foot of a bank, especially if it's not a very stable bank.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But what I wanted to ask you is that I know there's been some thought given, and it's a little bit expensive, but it may be worthwhile in terms of equity and fairness, and especially as water becomes tighter in terms of the tug on uses, is it possible to study hydrologically, starting at least with maybe the Platte and moving on, exactly where the conjunctive use of water comes into play? And to start drawing that 50 foot line, sometimes 100 feet, sometimes 20 feet, depending on where the conjunctive use...whether the hydrological studies show the conjunctive use is. Is thought being given to that process at all?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, Senator Beutler, as you know, the legislative body passed LB 108, and you might have to help me here, about three or four years ago. I think that does start the process of studying underground water and the relationship to streams. As you well know, we are metering wells in the Republican River Basin, and there we have used the term alluvial wells. And Department of Water Resources has defined the alluvial well, and it's based upon the geography of the overlying surface. I don't think the alluvial wells, there was much study put into it as to what the underground sediments are.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, to the extent that I could, I just wanted to...